Underground cables in Bihar Sharif Sub-Division

2488. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 220 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 2001 and state:

(a) whether Government are aware that underground cables were laid in 1996 for Kakaila village because DET, Bihar Sharif Sub-Division is a resident of that village;

(b) whether Government are also aware that other villages where telephones were working earlier than 1996 were connected with underground cable much later;

(c) if so, the details in this regard;

(d) whether discriminatory action of DET are badly harming the interests of the area;

(e) if so, whether Government propose to remove the concerned DET; and

(f)ifso, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir. The underground cable in village Kakaila was not laid in the year 1996. It was laid in 1999 alongwith villages Bhagwanpur and Lodhipur based on the waiting list.

(b) and (c) No, Sir, Prior to the year 19%, a Long Distance Public Call Office (LDPCO) was working in village Mirchaiganj on overhead lines from Nalanda exchange. Underground cable could not be laid to this village because the village is located beyond the local area of the exchange at a distance of 8 kms. from the exchange.

(d) There is no discriminatory action on the part of concerned DET.

(e) and (f) Do not arise in view of reply to para (d) above.

Mirchaiganj's connection with Nalanda Exchange

2489. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 220 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th July, 2001 and state: